

SACC Parent Handbook

School Age Child Care Program
Fairfax County Department of Family Services
Office for Children
...an early childhood education agency

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What Is SACC?

School Age Child Care (SACC) is a Fairfax County Office for Children program offering professional care during non-school hours for children attending kindergarten through sixth grade. It is located in most Fairfax County Public Elementary Schools (FCPS) throughout the county, as well as Key and Kilmer Centers which serve multiple types of disabilities, ages 5-21.

SACC's curriculum guidelines and activities support Virginia's *Standards of Learning* (SOL's) through fun, hands-on, and experiential learning experiences. SACC teachers strive to provide balance in the children's day – a relaxing yet stimulating environment, time to play with friends and time to quietly curl up with a book. SACC is a place for children to run, to think, to create, and to imagine.

Who Is Eligible?

SACC is available to families who have a child enrolled in a Fairfax County elementary school, kindergarten through sixth grade. All adults living in the child's home must meet one of the following criteria:

- Work 30 or more hours a week
- Attend school full time (12 semester hours)
- Attend a job training program 30 or more hours a week
- Be disabled
- Any combination equivalent to the above

Parents may be required to furnish evidence of eligibility upon enrollment into the program.

Please see the *How Do I Enroll?* section for additional information on enrollment.

What If My Child...?

Attends Public School

SACC centers are located in most Fairfax County elementary schools. Children are typically enrolled in the SACC program where they attend school. If a child's base school does not have a SACC center or if the center is fully enrolled, a parent may request "pupil placement" from Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). Approval allows a child to attend school where a SACC center is located that has space available. Approval is limited.

Parents who wish to apply for pupil placement must first enroll their child in the SACC center where the pupil placement is being requested to assure space is available. Enrollment in SACC does not guarantee the approval of pupil placement.

Next, permission for pupil placement must be requested from the child's base school. If approved, parents are responsible for daily transportation to and from the non-base school.

Attends Private or Parochial School

Children attending private or parochial school may also be enrolled in the SACC program. It is important that schedules are compared prior to enrollment. Children must follow the scheduled hours and holidays of the SACC center they attend. Daily transportation to and from the center is the parent's responsibility.

Lives out of the County

Out-of-County residents may use the SACC program if space is available. In-County residents receive priority placement over non-residents. Out-of-County residents must pay full fee for each child regardless of income. Sliding fee scale and sibling discounts do not apply.

Has Special Needs

Children with special needs are integrated into all SACC centers. In addition, Key and Kilmer Centers are self-contained programs which serve multiple types of disabilities, ages 5-21. SACC works closely with families to provide a successful experience for all children. Parents are welcome to contact a Regional Supervisor if additional information is needed or if they would like to discuss their child's placement.

Note: SACC does not provide transportation. Limited transportation may be provided by Fairfax County Public Schools for children attending special education programs. For further information, please check with the FCPS Special Education Transportation office at 703-446-2050.

What Services Does SACC Offer?

The SACC program is designed to serve children who need care five days a week. SACC does not provide drop-in, short term, or partial week service. SACC offers four (4) programs: School Year, Winter Break, Spring Break, and Summer Camp, for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Separate fees and enrollment apply to each program and session.

School Year Program

During the school year, children may be enrolled in three separate sessions. A separate fee applies to each session.

- **Before School (BS):** operates from 7:15 a.m. until the time school begins.
- **After Kindergarten (AK):** operates from the end of the morning kindergarten class until the end of the regular school day. Kindergarten children needing care after the regular school day ends must enroll in both the *After Kindergarten* and *After School* sessions.

Note: In schools that have an early release schedule on Mondays, children who are enrolled in the After Kindergarten program, but not the After School program, may attend SACC until the regular Tuesday through Friday school dismissal time.

- Children enrolled in the AK program must be enrolled in the school's morning kindergarten class. Acceptance into the school's morning kindergarten class is based upon availability and approval by the school. Space is limited. Therefore, it is recommended that parents make this request to their school office as soon as possible. Enrollment in SACC does not guarantee enrollment in the school's morning kindergarten class.
- **After School (AS):** operates from the end of the school day until 6:15 p.m. In schools where children are released early on Mondays, SACC service begins when children are released.

Winter & Spring Break Programs

Programs are offered at consolidated sites throughout the County. All centers operate from 7:15 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. daily. Children need to bring a packed lunch and drink each day. Snack is provided by SACC in the morning and afternoon. Separate fees and enrollment apply to each program. Enrollment is limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Summer Camp Program

Weekly sessions are offered at consolidated sites throughout the County. Children may be enrolled in one or more weeks. Enrollment is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. A separate fee applies to each week enrolled. All centers operate from 7:15 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. daily.

- A refrigerated packed lunch is provided by SACC each day. A menu is available at the center. If your child does not want the lunch offered, you are welcome to provide a substitute lunch. A snack is also provided by SACC in the morning and afternoon.
- Children enrolled in the Summer Camp program swim at regional pools. On their first swim day, children are tested to assess their level of competency, and assigned a colored wrist band which must be worn at all times while at the pool.
- Field trips are taken throughout the summer. A calendar of special activities and field trips is available at each site. If you do not want your child to participate in a particular field trip or swim trip, please notify the center staff in writing. Arrangements will be made for your child to join the activities taking place at the center.

Note: A child may be enrolled in a Winter Break, Spring Break, or Summer Camp Program even if he/she is not enrolled in the school year program.

How Do I Enroll?

Call SACC Registration at 703-449-8989 to enroll in new services. A Registrar will guide you through the process. A separate fee and enrollment applies to each program and service. Enrollment is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. Children can be enrolled or placed on a wait list up to a year in advance of the start of a school year. Pre-enrollment begins each July.

The following information is needed at the time of registration: parent names, addresses, phone numbers, child information, gross household income, services needed and base school. Information regarding school boundaries is available by calling 703-246-3609 or by viewing the Fairfax County Public School website at www.fcps.k12.va.us.

Automatic Re-enrollment

Current services and current center placement automatically roll over each year and are guaranteed to families whose accounts are in good standing. For example, if your child is enrolled in BS and AS at Aldrin SACC this year, he/she will automatically be enrolled in BS and AS at Aldrin SACC next year, unless the services are cancelled.

- If you enroll in the Winter Break, Spring Break, or Summer Camp Programs and do not use the service you are no longer guaranteed automatic re-enrollment. Those sessions will be automatically cancelled for the next year. Parents must call to re-enroll, or be placed on a wait list.
- Account balances that are delinquent may jeopardize services and automatic re-enrollment is not guaranteed.

Transfers

Transferred services are not guaranteed. However, every effort is made to work with current families to accommodate transfer requests. Transfers are dependent upon the current enrollment number and the wait list of the new center requested.

Cancellations

Services that are cancelled do not roll over to the following year and are not guaranteed. Parents must call to re-enroll, or be placed on a wait list.

How Do I Cancel?

To cancel SACC services, you may either call SACC Registration at 703-449-8989 or you may email your cancellation to: saccregistration@fairfaxcounty.gov. A confirmation will be returned to you by email.

Please be sure to include the following information:

- Parent name
- Child name
- Account number
- Center name
- Session(s) to be cancelled (BS, AK, AS, Winter, Spring, Summer)
- Last day your child will attend SACC (this is important for SACC billing purposes)

Examples:

Hi, my name is Sarah Jones. I would like to cancel the After School services for my daughter Amy Smith at Orange Grove SACC Center. Her last day of attendance will be Friday, May 14th. My account number is 111111.

My name is James Jordon. I would like to cancel Summer Sessions 2, 5, & 7 at Orange Grove SACC for my daughter Jessica Jordon. My account number is 222222.

My name is Sonya Ramirez. I would like to cancel all services for my son Miquel Ramirez for next school year, at Orange Grove SACC. Please keep him enrolled for the remainder of this school year and summer. My account number is 333333.

Two (2) Week Notification:

If your plans change, please notify SACC Registration as soon as possible. A minimum of two (2) weeks cancellation notice is required. You will continue to be billed, and are responsible for payment unless service is cancelled in advance.

What About Fees?

Sliding Fee Scale: Families must be residents of Fairfax County to apply for reduced fees. Out-of-County residents and graduate students pay full fee regardless of income. Fees are based on adjusted gross household income. Families whose adjusted gross household income is \$48,000 or above, are assessed at full fee. Families requesting reduced fees must complete and submit financial forms and verification of residency and income within ten business days of receipt. Fee adjustments start from the date SACC Registration receives completed financial forms. Full fee is charged if financial forms are not completed and returned within the ten days. Income re-certification must be submitted each June (regardless of start date) and as changes occur throughout the year.

Registration Fee: A one-time registration fee of \$35 applies to new families and is non-refundable. The fee is assessed at the time of enrollment.

Program Fees: Fees are charged monthly for the School Year program. Fees are the same each month regardless of the number of program days in each month. Additional session fees are charged for the Winter Break, Spring Break, and Summer Camp programs.

Late Pick-Up Fees: SACC centers close at 6:15 p.m. A fee is charged for every 15 minutes or portion of 15 minutes that a child is picked up late. Habitual lateness may result in the loss of services.

- For the first three (3) occurrences, a late fee of \$5.00 is charged for each 15 minutes (or portion of 15 minutes) that a child is cared for after session hours. Late fees increase after three (3) times.
- After three (3) times, a late fee of \$15.00 is charged for each 15 minutes (or portion of 15 minutes) that a child is cared for after session hours.
- Late pick-up persons will be asked to sign a Late Pick-Up Form.

Note: If you are running late, please notify the center by 6:15 p.m. If you have not contacted the center and staff cannot reach you, an emergency person will be contacted to pick up your child.

Adjustments & Refunds: No fees will be adjusted or refunded for extended absences, early pick-ups, unanticipated calendar changes, or weather related closings.

How Am I Billed?

School Year Program (Standard & Modified): You will be billed one month in advance for SACC services. Payment is due in advance of service. Regular billings will be mailed mid-month for the next month's service and payment is due at the end of the month. The cost of the *standard* school year program is billed in 10 equal monthly installments from August through May. Services for *modified* school year programs are billed in 11 equal monthly installments from July through May. Teachers may not accept SACC payments.

Winter & Spring Break Programs: Winter Break and Spring Break programs are on a different fee schedule and appear as a separate charge on your account.

Summer Camp: Summer Camp fees are on a different fee schedule. Weeks 1-4 are billed in June and the remaining summer weeks are billed in July. Fees appear on your statement in weekly sessions.

Registration Fee: A one-time registration fee of \$35 will appear on your first bill.

Fee Assessments: Fees for school year services are assessed on a half-month basis regardless of the number of days of attendance during that time. The 15th of the month is used for the half-month assessment. If a service is cancelled prior to the 15th of the month you may be eligible for a half-month credit. If you enroll prior to the 15th of the month, you will be billed for a full month of service. If you enroll after the 15th of the month you will be billed for a half-month of service.

Cancelled Services: Notify SACC Registration if you are cancelling services for the School Year, Winter Break, Spring Break, or Summer Camp programs as soon as possible. You will continue to be billed, and are responsible for payment unless service is cancelled in advance. Depending on the date you cancel service, you will be obligated to pay for either a half-month of service or a full month of service for the School Year program, or for the full session of the Winter Break, Spring Break, or Summer Camp programs. *(Please let the SACC teachers know your child's last day of attendance.)*

Added Service: Depending on your child's start date, you will be billed for either a half-month or a full month of service for the School Year program. You will be billed for the full session of the Winter Break, Spring Break, and Summer Camp programs regardless of the start date. To enroll in additional services or to add another child call SACC Registration. Enrollment is limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Monthly Billing: SACC services are billed one month in advance. Service additions or cancellations made after the 6th of each month may not be reflected on that month's bill. Any additional fees or credits that miss the billing cut-off date will appear on the following month's statement. Payment must be received by the 28th of each month.

Change in Income: Notify SACC Registration within ten business days of any changes in income or family size. Fee adjustments become effective from the point of receipt forward, and do not apply to past bills.

Change of Address or Contact Information: Please notify SACC Registration immediately with any address and/or phone number changes.

Returned Checks: There will be a \$30.00 charge for all returned checks.

Delinquency/Non-Payment: Services must be paid in full each month. Additional services or programs may not be added if your account is delinquent. Non-payment will result in the cancellation of all services. If you receive a Notice of Delinquency, please contact SACC billing at DAHS Accounts Receivable immediately to avoid having services cancelled.

Federal Tax ID: Fairfax County's federal tax ID number is 54-0787833. It is recommended that billing statements, receipts, and cancelled checks be kept for tax purposes.

School Year Locations

ALEXANDRIA

Belle View
6701 Fort Hunt Rd.

Bren Mar Park
6344 Beryl Rd.

Bucknell
6925 University Dr.

Bush Hill
5927 Westchester St.

Cameron
3434 Campbell Dr.

Clermont
5720 Clermont Dr.

Fort Hunt
8832 Linton Ln.

Franconia (Modified)
6043 Franconia Rd.

Groveton
6900 Harrison Ln.

Hayfield
7633 Telegraph Rd.

Hollin Meadows
2310 Nordok Pl.

Hybla Valley
3415 Lockheed Blvd.

Island Creek
7855 Morning View Ln.

Lane
7137 Beulah St.

Mt. Vernon Woods
4015 Fielding St.

Parklawn (Modified)
4116 Braddock Rd.

Riverside
8410 Old Mt. Vernon Rd.

Rose Hill
6301 Rose Hill Dr.

Stratford Landing
8484 Riverside Rd.

Washington Mill
9100 Cherrytree Dr.

Waynewood
1205 Waynewood Blvd.

Weyanoke
6520 Braddock Rd.

Woodlawn
8505 Highland Ln.

Woodley Hills
8718 Old Mt. Vernon Rd.

ANNANDALE

Annandale Terrace (Modified)
7604 Herald St.

Braddock
7825 Heritage Dr.

Camelot
8100 Guinevere Dr.

Canterbury Woods
4910 Willet Dr.

Columbia
6720 Alpine Dr.

BURKE

Terra Centre
6000 Burke Center Pkwy.

CENTREVILLE

Bull Run
15301 Lee Highway

Centre Ridge
14400 New Braddock Rd.

Centreville
14330 Green Trails Blvd.

Colin Powell
13340 Leland Rd.

Deer Park
15109 Carlbern Dr.

London Towne
6100 Stone Rd.

Poplar Tree
13440 Melville Ln.

Virginia Run
15450 Martins Hundred Dr.

CHANTILLY

Brookfield
4200 Lees Corner Rd.

CLIFTON

Union Mill
13611 Springstone Dr.

FAIRFAX

Bonnie Brae
5420 Sideburn Rd.

Daniels Run
3705 Old Lee Hwy.

Fairfax Villa
10900 Santa Clara Dr.

Fairhill
3001 Chichester Ln.

Greenbriar East
13006 Point Pleasant Dr.

Greenbriar West
13300 Poplar Tree Rd.

Laurel Ridge
10110 Commonwealth Blvd.

Lees Corner
13500 Hollinger Ave.

Little Run
4511 Olley Ln.

Mantua
9107 Horner Ct.

Mosby Woods
9819 Five Oaks Rd.

Navy
3500 West Ox Rd.

Oak View
5004 Sideburn Rd.

Olde Creek
9524 Old Creek Dr.

Providence
3616 Jermantown Rd.

Wakefield Forest
4011 Iva Ln.

Willow Springs
5400 Willow Springs School Rd.

FAIRFAX STATION

Fairview
5815 Ox Rd.

Silverbrook
9350 Crosspointe Dr.

FALLS CHURCH

Bailey's
6111 Knollwood Dr.

Beech Tree
3401 Beech Tree Ln.

Belvedere
6540 Columbia Pike

Glen Forest (Modified)
5829 Glen Forest Dr.

Graham Road (Modified)
3036 Graham Rd.

Haycock
6616 Haycock Rd.

Lemon Road
7230 Idylwood Rd.

Pine Spring
7607 Willow Ln.

Shrevewood
7525 Shreve Rd.

Sleepy Hollow
3333 Sleepy Hollow Rd.

Timber Lane (Modified)
2737 West St.

Westgate
7500 Magarity Rd.

Westlawn
3200 Westley Rd.

Woodburn
3401 Hemlock Dr.

GREAT FALLS

Forestville
1085 Utterback Store Rd.

Great Falls
701 Walker Rd.

HERNDON

Crossfield
2791 Fox Mill Rd.

Dranesville
1515 Powells Tavern Pl.

Floris
2708 Centreville Rd.

Fox Mill
2601 Viking Dr.

Herndon
630 Dranesville Rd.

Hutchison
13209 Parcher Ave.

McNair
2499 Thomas Jefferson Dr.

LORTON

Gunston
10100 Gunston Rd.

Halley
8850 Cross Chase Circle

Lorton Station
9298 Lewis Chapel Rd.

McLEAN

Chesterbrook
1753 Kirby Rd.

Churchill Road
7100 Churchill Rd.

Franklin Sherman
6630 Brawner St.

Kent Gardens
1717 Melbourne Dr.

Spring Hill
8201 Lewinsville Rd.

OAKTON

Oakton
3000 Chain Bridge Rd.

Waples Mill
11509 Waples Mill Rd.

RESTON

Aldrin

11375 Center Harbor Rd.

Armstrong

11900 Lake Newport Rd.

Dogwood (Modified)

12300 Glade Dr.

Forest Edge

1501 Becontree Ln.

Hunters Woods

2401 Colts Neck Rd.

Lake Anne

11510 North Shore Dr.

Sunrise Valley

10824 Cross School Rd.

Terraset

11411 Ridge Heights Rd.

SPRINGFIELD

Cardinal Forest

8600 Forrester Blvd.

Crestwood

6010 Hanover Ave.

Forestdale

6530 Elder Ave.

Garfield

7101 Old Keene Mill Rd.

Hunt Valley

7107 Sydenstricker Rd.

Keene Mill

6310 Bardu Ave.

Key Center (Multiple Disabilities)

6404 Franconia Rd.

Kings Glen

5401 Danbury Forest Dr.

Kings Park

5400 Harrow Way

Lynbrook

5801 Backlick Rd.

Newington Forest

8001 Newington Forest Ave.

North Springfield

7602 Heming Ct.

Orange Hunt

6820 Sydenstricker Rd.

Ravensworth

5411 Nutting Dr.

Rolling Valley

6703 Barnack Dr.

Sangster

7420 Reservation Dr.

Saratoga

8111 Northumberland Rd.

Springfield Estates

6200 Charles C. Goff Dr.

West Springfield

6802 Deland Dr.

VIENNA

Colvin Run

1400 Trap Rd.

Cunningham Park

1001 Park St., SE

Flint Hill

2444 Flint Hill Rd.

Freedom Hill

1945 Lord Fairfax Rd.

Kilmer Center

(Multiple Disabilities)

8102 Wolftap Rd.

Marshall Road

730 Marshall Rd., SW

Stenwood

2620 Gallows Rd.

Vienna

128 Center St., South

Westbriar

1741 Pine Valley Dr.

Wolftap

1903 Beulah Rd.

OFC reserves the right to cancel any programs which are not fully enrolled. SACC locations and center capacities are subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Title VII of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act make it unlawful to discriminate in any service or program on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability. Children with special needs are included in SACC centers in integrated settings. Please contact a Regional Supervisor if you have any questions.



If you or your child require assistance or accommodations due to a disability, please contact our office.

General Information

Virginia State Licensing: All SACC centers are licensed by the state of Virginia and receive regular inspections for compliance to licensing regulations. A copy of the center's licensing permit is posted at each site. If you have any questions regarding licensing, please consult your center staff or a Regional Supervisor.

Licensing Information for SACC:

- **Licensing Information form*:** Centers are required to have accurate and up-to-date emergency information on all children enrolled in the SACC program. Forms must be completed, signed, and reviewed with center staff before your child may attend SACC. A separate form is required for each sibling. Current families must complete a new form at the start of each school year.
- **Health Form & Immunization Record*:** Licensing requires a copy of each child's School Entrance Health Form. Please provide a copy to center staff if one is not already on file at the center. A photocopy of the School Entrance Health Form may be requested from the school office or completed by your child's physician. Blank copies are available at each center.
- **Emergency Contacts*:** Licensing requires a minimum of two contact persons who are available to pick up your child when you cannot be reached in the event of an emergency situation. Please advise your contacts that you have given their names and phone numbers to SACC. It is important that your emergency contacts be able to pick up your child if they receive a call.
- **Authorized Pick-up Persons:** Children will be released only to the persons listed on their SACC Licensing Information form. Space is available to add additional persons other than your emergency contacts. SACC must have written notification with clearly detailed instructions, whenever your child is to go home with anyone other than a regular pick-up person or if your child is to attend any event after school other than SACC.
- **Signatures*:** An original signature is required on both the white and yellow copies of the Licensing form. Please read all information carefully before signing the form.
- **Child Identification:** Proof of identity (birth certificate, passport, or Social Security card) must be shown if your child is enrolled in the Winter Break, Spring Break, or

Summer Camp programs, but not enrolled in a school year SACC program.

- **Pick-up Identification:** All authorized pick-up persons unfamiliar to center staff must show proof of identification. A photo ID is required.
- **Custody Issues:** SACC teachers must release children to parents unless a copy of appropriate legal paperwork is provided to the center staff.
- **Change of Contact Information:** It is important that licensing information be kept current and up-to-date. Please notify the center staff as soon as possible of any changes in phone numbers, addresses, pick-up persons, etc. Also notify SACC Registration of any changes in your phone numbers or address.
- **Medication:** In order for staff to administer any medication, a FCPS/SACC Medication Authorization form must be completed by a parent or legal guardian. Forms are available at the centers. Dosages for non-prescription medication may not exceed the manufacturer's guidelines. Written instructions from a physician are required for non-prescription medication administered more than three days, or on an as-needed basis. All prescription medications require written instructions from a physician. All medication must be in the original labeled container and have a valid expiration date. Prescription medication must have the pharmacy label containing the child's name, dosage, times to be administered, and a valid expiration date. An authorized adult must deliver the medication to SACC and give it to a teacher. Medication is kept in a locked container accessible only to center staff.
- **Expired Medication:** Any medications that are not on-going need to be picked up after 14 days or they will be disposed of by center staff.
- **Communicable Diseases:** Parents must inform the center within 24 hours if your child or a member of your immediate household has developed a communicable disease as defined by the State Board of Health, except for life threatening diseases which must be reported immediately. All SACC parents will be notified within 24 hours if a communicable disease is reported at the center.

***Note:** This information must be provided in order for your child to attend SACC.

- **Sunscreen & Insect Repellant:** SACC must have written permission to apply sunscreen or insect repellant to your child. Sunscreen must be hypo-allergenic and a minimum SPF of 15. All over-the-counter skin products must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and will not be kept or used beyond the product's expiration date. Children nine years and older may apply their own sunscreen. Please be sure to label the container with your child's name and date.

Staff: A criminal background check is completed on all SACC staff who work with children. A TB assessment is done every two years. All SACC teachers are certified in Basic First Aid and CPR. Teachers also receive mandatory training throughout the year to ensure the highest quality of programming and service.

Child Protective Services: Virginia State law requires SACC staff to report suspected child abuse and neglect to Child Protective Services.

Shelter-in-Place: Every SACC center has a Shelter-in-Place plan that will be implemented in the case of chemical or biological threats and in cases of extreme emergencies.

Intersessions (Modified Schools): During FCPS intersessions, SACC operates the regular BS, AK, and AS sessions.

Teacher Workdays: SACC provides full day service from 7:15 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. on most Fairfax County Public School Teacher Workdays. Children enrolled in the School Year program BS, AK, or AS may attend the full day.

Teacher Workdays are listed on the SACC Calendar that is distributed at the beginning of the school year. A schedule of activities and field trips will be posted in advance of the workday. Please remember to send a packed lunch and drink that require no refrigeration or heating on Teacher Workdays. School cafeterias will be closed.

Supplemental Accident Insurance: The SACC program has limited supplemental accident insurance for children participating in the program. This insurance is intended to cover medical costs that cannot be covered by family insurance. Contact SACC Registration immediately if you need to file a claim.

Snow & Emergency School Closings, Delayed Openings, and Early Releases

Full Day Closings – SACC will be closed whenever schools are closed for the full day due to snow, energy problems, or other emergencies.

Delayed School Openings – On days when school opens one or two hours late, SACC centers will make every effort to open by 8:00 a.m. Please call your center to make sure that teachers have arrived before leaving your home.

Early School Closings – SACC will operate from the time school closes until 6:15 p.m., the normal SACC closing time. In the event of severe weather conditions, SACC Administration may ask parents to pick-up children earlier.

Teacher Workdays – SACC will be closed whenever schools are closed for the full day due to snow, energy problems, or other emergencies. If it is announced by the media that Fairfax County Public School teachers do not report to work, SACC teachers do not report to work and centers are closed.

Winter & Spring Break Programs – Listen for Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public School Administration announcements on the radio and television.

Information about school closings and delays is announced on local radio and television stations. Current information can also be found on the Fairfax County Public Schools website at: www.fcps.k12.va.us or on the Fairfax County Government website at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Important Session Information and Reminders

Before School (BS):

- Centers open at 7:15 a.m. Teachers will be prepared to accept children at that time.
- To ensure your child's safe arrival, parents must walk children into the SACC room each morning. Please be sure a SACC teacher is present and aware of your child's arrival before you leave. Children may not be left on school grounds without SACC supervision.
- Many schools offer a breakfast program. Please let center staff know if your child will be participating in the school's breakfast program.

After Kindergarten (AK):

- The AK session ends at the same time every day. In schools that operate an early release schedule on Mondays, kindergarten children enrolled in *AK only* may stay until the regular school dismissal time. Please remember that kindergarten children who ride the bus or walk with an older sibling on early release Mondays will arrive home approximately two hours early.
- Kindergarten children who ride the bus home each afternoon will be walked to their bus each day by center staff, unless released to an authorized pick-up person. Please make sure center staff has your child's correct bus number.
- Kindergarteners will be released only to persons listed on their SACC Licensing Information form. If an older sibling is picking up your child, please be sure his/her name is listed as an authorized pick-up person on the Licensing form. Kindergarteners will not be released to walk home alone.

- If your child rides the bus or is picked up by someone else, please check your child's backpack daily for notes, newsletters, or other communications from SACC or the school.
- Kindergarteners must bring a packed lunch or purchase a cafeteria lunch each day. Lunch cards are available for purchase through the school.
- SACC provides mats for rest periods. Please send in a sheet or a blanket marked with your child's name. These will be sent home regularly for laundering. Quiet activities will be provided for those children who do not nap.

After School (AS):

- Please remind your child to go to the SACC room immediately after school and check in with a teacher. Children should have all belongings and homework assignments when arriving to SACC. Children's belongings should be clearly marked with his/her name.
- A snack is offered every afternoon. A daily menu is posted at the center and on the SACC website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/childcare/sacc.htm.
- Please pick your child up by 6:15 p.m. every day. SACC is not structured to care for children after the center is scheduled to close. If you are running late, please call the center and let the staff know the approximate time you will arrive. If you have not contacted the center by 6:15 p.m., staff will make every effort to reach you. In the event staff cannot reach you, an emergency contact person or someone on your authorized pick-up list will be called and requested to pick up your child. If staff cannot reach anyone within a reasonable period of time, it may be necessary to contact Child Protective Services. This will only be done with the authorization of a Regional Supervisor.
- Late pick-up persons will be asked to sign a Late Pick-up Form and late charges will be assessed. Habitual lateness may result in loss of service.
- When your child is picked up, please be sure a teacher knows your child is leaving. Your child's magnet should be moved to "out" on the sign-out board and the board signed by the pick-up person.

SACC Programming

▪ **The “Rhythm”:** Walk into a SACC center and just listen. There is a current of sounds and movements that rise and fall, like a subtle symphony. Children are engaged in soft conversation punctured by giggles. Chairs slide quietly across the floor as children get paint, paper and other supplies to make a giant solar system. Others are in the block area pushing cars across a wooden highway while making a “brooom, brooom” sound. Water tinkles in the sink as two children wash their hands for snack. One child has knocked over the ball bin, and the balls are making a hollow thumping noise on the tile floor. Music is heard in the background as a small group practices a dance routine. These are the daily “rhythms” of a SACC center.

▪ **The “Experience”:** These “rhythms” are also the sounds of experiential learning. SACC teachers use experiential learning techniques to teach competencies and skills that will stay with the children throughout their lives. Experiential learning is the process by which children develop skills through play using real objects such as a sewing machine, microscope, or hand tools. This play allows children to acquire information and concept development through direct hands-on experiences and long-term projects.

The heartbeat of SACC’s programming is its curriculum. Our curriculum is divided into four major focus areas. These areas are the Arts (visual & performing), Sciences (natural & human), Literacy, and Recreation. Teachers use children’s everyday interests and curiosities to spark further exploration into these areas. For example, action figures that are being played with by a small group may become the source for writing a play script, the inspiration for a new super-hero dance, the main characters of a story or poem, the subject of a photo expo, the stimulus for a fitness club, or the catalyst for a scientific exploration.

As children explore a particular interest, the focus areas become a natural extension and reflection of this process. In addition, friendships, teamwork, leadership, problem solving, decision making, and independent thinking skills are the natural outflow of the SACC “experience.”

▪ **The “Environment”:** SACC teachers seek to create an environment that is pleasing to the eye and that reflects children’s interests and current explorations. While there are basic areas of interests such as a cozy reading corner, game tables, art area, cooking area, construction zone, and science center, the rooms are continually evolving and transforming. What may start as a simple plant growing experiment could evolve into an indoor botanical gardening center. That in turn, may overflow to the outdoors with the creation of a schoolyard wildlife habitat.

Materials and supplies are on hand to support the children’s interests and imaginations, whether it’s dance, the theatre, sports, cooking, building, photography, reading, music, painting, computers, games, etc. Access to the school playground, sports fields, and gym are also available.

▪ **Field Trips:** Children go on field trips including walking, biking, swimming, and those requiring use of FCPS or public transportation throughout the year. During the school year, centers may use one Teacher Workday to go on an all-day trip that gives children an opportunity to explore areas beyond their immediate surroundings. The Winter & Spring Break Programs, as well as regular SACC days, provide perfect opportunities for experiencing the surrounding community on foot, bicycle, or by riding a local bus. During Summer Camp, there is a regular flow of children coming and going. Children swim once a week at regional pools and participate in regularly scheduled field trips.

Information about dates, times, and destinations will be provided in advance. Please let SACC teachers know if you do not want your child to participate in a specific field trip.

▪ **Homework:** Children may do their homework at any time throughout the afternoon. Some children prefer to do their homework right away, while others find they need to move and release built up energy before being able to focus. Homework is encouraged, but self-directed. Staff are available to answer questions; however, they will be facilitating activities for other children at the same time.

▪ **Center Highlights:** Each center posts highlights of activities, events, and special visitors. Highlights also list the center staff, Regional Supervisor’s names, and administrative phone numbers.

▪ **Teachers:** SACC teachers have both academic backgrounds in child-related fields and experience working with children in small and large group settings. Many have graduate or post graduate degrees in education, psychology, recreation, or other related fields. Equally important are the diverse areas of interest and expertise of the SACC staff. SACC teachers represent cultures from around the world, and many are bi-lingual. Each teacher brings something unique and special to the SACC Program. There are musicians, artists, writers, athletes, naturalists, carpenters, designers, cooks, gardeners, and computer savvy experts - all sharing their talents. SACC teachers:

- ensure the safety of children
- welcome all children, including those with special needs
- encourage acceptance of differences
- provide experiential learning opportunities
- support independent thinking
- nurture creative expression
- encourage cooperation & community
- model patience, flexibility, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude
- support working parents

▪ **Regional Supervisors:** The SACC centers are divided into four regions that are each supervised by a team of Regional Supervisors. Regional Supervisors make regular visits to the centers. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments about your center or the program, please feel free to contact the Regional Supervisors for your center. Regional Supervisors' names are listed on the SACC Highlights and on page 32.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What will my child's afternoon in SACC be like?

SACC is a place for children to run, play, laugh, explore, think, create, or simply "chill." When your child walks into the SACC room after school, he/she is greeted by a teacher and welcomed to an environment that reflects children's interests. Unlike a structured classroom, children are free to move in and out of activities of their choice. After snack, some children will choose to finish their homework, others will head outdoors to the playground, and some may become involved in a group project.

Throughout the afternoon a number of activities and experiences are offered. Some children like to stick with the same project or stay in the gym for most of the afternoon. Others like to participate in two or three different activities, while some children just want to spend time with friends or quietly read a book. Each child chooses the direction his/her afternoon will take. As parents arrive, they are welcome to join in a project, or sit and relax for a few minutes.

Is SACC open year round?

SACC is closed for approximately one week at the end of the school year and for two weeks before the school year begins. These breaks are necessary for school maintenance, closing down and setting up center rooms, moving equipment & supplies between school year and summer centers, and to allow time for orientation and training of staff.

What is SACC's Holiday schedule?

Generally, SACC follows the FCPS and County Holiday calendar. The SACC Calendar is distributed at the beginning of each school year. It is also available on the SACC website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/childcare/sacc.htm.

What do I do when my child is going to be absent?

If your child is going to be absent, please notify the center as soon as possible. Center staff must account for all children each day.

How do SACC teachers deal with children's behavior?

SACC teachers promote positive behavior through fun and stimulating programming, building relationships with each child, and creating an environment that is conducive to cooperative play, and encouraging an atmosphere of mutual respect. Teachers also help children learn problem-solving skills and to develop a common understanding of acceptable vs. unacceptable behaviors (behaviors that offend, exclude, or hurt others, and why). Every center has a copy of the *SACC Guide to Children's Behavior*, which you are welcome to review.

What should I do if my child has a conflict with another child?

If you are concerned about a child's behavior or a conflict that arises, please discuss those issues with the center staff as soon as possible. Regional Supervisors are also available to discuss any issues or concerns you may have and will work with you and center staff toward a solution.

It is SACC's goal to create a successful environment for all children. However, once in a while, group care does not work for a particular child, and alternative care will be discussed.

What happens if my child becomes ill?

If your child becomes ill, you will be notified and asked to pick up your child as soon as possible or to make arrangements to have your child picked up by an emergency contact. Your child will be made comfortable and offered a quiet place to rest until you arrive. Health Department regulations governing periods of infection will be enforced. Children may not attend SACC with any illness that threatens the health of other children.

What should I do when my child needs medication in SACC?

SACC follows FCPS policies regarding medication and uses the same forms. Medication forms are available at the center. Dosages for non-prescription medication may not exceed the manufacturer's guidelines. Medication will only be administered with written permission from parents on the FCPS/SACC medication form.

Written instructions from a physician are required for non-prescription medication administered more than three days, or on an as-needed basis. All prescription medications require written instructions from a physician.

All medication must be in the original labeled container with a pharmacy label identifying the child, medication, dose, and expiration date. Non-prescription medications must be in the original container. An authorized adult must deliver the medication to SACC and give it to a teacher. Please do not send it in with your child.

What happens if my child is injured?

SACC teachers are certified in Standard First-Aid Procedures and CPR. If the injury is minor, you will be notified and given information regarding the injury when you pick up your child. If your child's injury requires medical attention you will be notified immediately. If you cannot be reached, a staff member will accompany your child to the hospital. It is important to know that the hospital will not treat a child without the permission of a parent. Please be sure the center and SACC Registration have current contact information at all times.

How may I become more involved?

SACC supports parent involvement. Parents are welcome to visit the center, participate in activities, and volunteer as special visitors. Participation is also encouraged in the center's family events that are offered throughout the year.

SACC's Parent Advisory Group (PAG) is another way to volunteer. The PAG members meet up to three evenings a year. Center representatives and SACC Administration talk about operational and administrative matters of interest.

SACC Administration

SACC Director Pat Diehl
Assistant Director Tony Humphrey
Assistant Director Sandy Sponseller
Full Day Program Coordinator Denise Reid
Program Administrator Rhonda Ross
Staffing Coordinator Lee An
Registration Supervisor Beth Leggat

SACC Regional Supervisor Teams

Region 1 Susan Allen
..... Sharon Downing
..... Raymond Morton
..... Kathy Uhrich

Region 2 Lawrence Clark
..... Panzie Johnson
..... Anita McElhiney
..... Milton Whitfield

Region 3 Art Cole
..... Terry Johnson
..... LaSondra Moore
..... Tanya Pullman

Region 4 Veronica Letsinger
..... Carlyn Lightfoot
..... Kevin Mathews
..... Rodney Mills

School Age Child Care (SACC) Program

12011 Government Center Parkway
Suite 930
Fairfax, Virginia 22035

703/449-1414 **SACC Administration**

703/449-8989 **SACC Registration**

703/324-3811 **Billing**

703/324-3007 **FAX**

711 **TDD (Virginia Relay)**

Email cancellations: saccregistration@fairfaxcounty.gov

SACC website: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/childcare/sacc.htm